

Fish Story

Belleville fisherman takes state prize

Andrea King
Staff Writer

When fisherman, Paul Curmi failed to win first prize in a tournament last year, and the year before, he just kept on trying.

And this month, persistence paid off for the Belleville fisherman when he took first place in the Wal-Mart Forest L. Wood (FLW) Walleye League Michigan Division tournament at Houghton Lake June 11.

"I got third place last year, and the year before that, but never a first place. It was pretty exciting," he said.

Curmi, along with his partner Richard Hilts of Roscommon, brought in five walleyes weighing 15 pounds, 2 ounces.

The duo trolled spinners less than 10 feet deep over 14 feet of water for their five-fish limit that included an 8-pounder. Curmi also took home more than \$2,000 in prizes. Hilts earned more than \$1,000.

"We weren't catching anything all week and by the time Monday came around I had zero," said Curmi. "I started to get worried, but in the end, ended up moving with an hour left in the tournament to get five fish. I was told

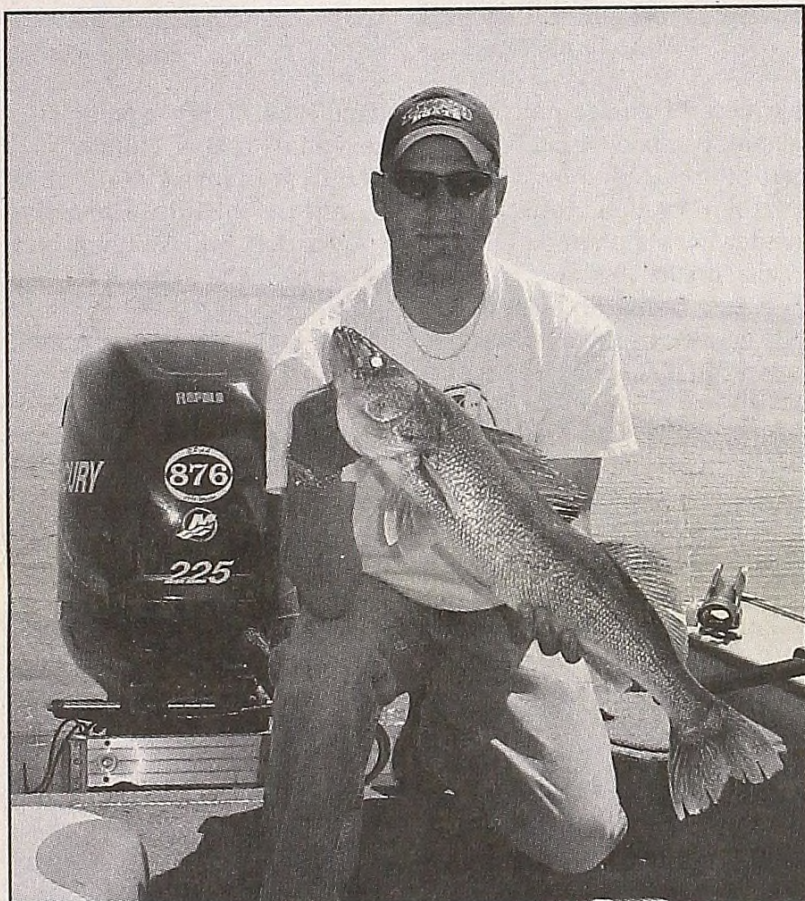
that the 8-pound fish was probably the biggest one to come out of that lake, so when we caught it people could hear us screaming and yelling from miles away. I still can't believe it."

According to Jason Sealock from FLW Outdoors, the FLW Walleye League tournament is where boaters and co-anglers fish together for a combined boat weight. The boaters compete against other boaters while the co-anglers fish against other co-anglers.

The FLW Outdoors administers the Wal-Mart FLW Walleye League and seven other national tournament circuits to offer more than \$30 million in awards through 214 events in 2005. The 27-year-old organization is the purveyor of America's largest and most prestigious fishing tournaments, Sealock added.

The next Michigan division event will take place today at Saginaw Bay. Boaters and co-anglers who finish in the top 35 in final point standings in each FLW Walleye division will advance to the September finals in Minnesota. The winning boater at the finals will receive an Evinrude or Yamaha powered Ranger 621 boat. Curmi said his goal will be to achieve the Angler of the Year award.

"Within the next two tournaments I would like to get that award," he said. "What makes a good fisherman is attention to detail and the love for fishing outdoors."



Paul Curmi displays his winning catch—an 8-pound fish—that also helped him catch first place.



Belleville fisherman Paul Curmi (left) and partner Richard Hilts of Roscommon (right) show off their first place trophies from the recent Wal-Mart Forest L. Wood Walleye League Michigan Division tournament.

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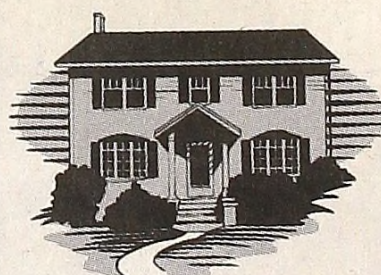
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Moving up the ladder

A recent swearing-in ceremony marked the first-ever promotions for the full-time fire department in Romulus. The occasion was marked at Romulus City Hall in front of city officials, family, friends, co-workers and others. Pictured above is Deputy Clerk Eva Webb, who swore in newly promoted fire lieutenants Douglas Rowe, Scott Ladach, John Theide and Michael Wojtylko as Mayor Alan Lambert, Public Safety Director Charles Kirby and Fire Chief David Allison look on.

News in brief

Fireworks scheduled

The City of Romulus' annual fireworks celebration will take off at dusk on Monday, July 4th at Elmer Johnson Park.

The Romulus display is considered one of the best displays in western Wayne County, and is a viable alternative to the Freedom Festival in Detroit, according to organizers. Elmer Johnson Park is located on Ozga Road, south of Wick Road. Admission is free. Event organizers advise spectators to arrive early, because parking is limited. For more information, call City Hall at (734) 342-7500.

Drug Task Force golf outing set

Mayor Alan Lambert's drug task force golf outing is planned for Friday, July 8, 2005 at Shady Hollow Golf Course. The 8 a.m. shotgun start is followed by lunch at the turn and dinner after golfing. Participants are welcome to help sponsor the event or come to golf. One hundred percent of the proceeds from this annual event fund student scholarships and healthy living programs for Romulus children. The drug task force is a non-profit organization that was formed to help prevent substance abuse in Romulus. For more information, call Kristin Irwin at (734) 941-8665.

Historical party planned

The Romulus Historical Society will host a party on Wednesday, July 13, in conjunction with the dedication ceremony of the newly-restored Wabash Freight Building. Festivities will take place at 6:30 p.m. at the Romulus Historical Park. For more information call Pearl Varner at (734) 697-9628.

Romulus Olympians sought

The Romulus Senior Center is looking for a few able-bodied seniors to join the city Olympic delegation for the Downriver Senior Olympics. This year, Woodhaven is hosting the event. The senior Olympics will take place Aug. 1-5. Seniors who wish to represent Romulus in the games should register at the Romulus Senior Center by June 24. Competitions include softball throw, ring toss, Frisbee toss, soccer kick, euchre, tennis, billiards, horseshoes, darts, pinochle, bocce ball, shuffleboard, golf, swimming, basketball shoot, bridge and bowling. For more information, call (734) 941-6009.

'Adopt-a-Pot' brings attention, beauty to downtown Romulus

Molly Tippen
Staff Writer

Downtown Romulus may be going to pot.

But that's a good thing because the city "Adopt-a-Pot" campaign could help bring awareness to residents about city efforts to revitalize the downtown area.

"This is a good way to get

involved in the community, and it will help bring some attention to the DDA (Downtown Development Authority) district," said Maria Lambert, the director of the Romulus DDA. "There are still quite a few pots available."

Adoptive custodians would be responsible for decorating and maintaining the pot until the Pumpkin Festival in the second weekend of September, Lambert

said. There's no cost for adopting a pot, and the person who creates maintains the most interesting pot will win a prize on Sept. 17, during the Pumpkin Festival.

Creating a tie between the popular Pumpkin Festival and the downtown area is the goal of the pot program, Lambert said. City officials believe creating some interest in downtown by engaging residents is an element

of driving more traffic through the area, Lambert said.

The Pumpkin Festival is an annual event that brings about 100,000 people, and is one of the most anticipated fall events in the area, Lambert said.

To adopt a pot, call Lambert at (734) 955-4533. Those who chose to adopt will have a plaque with their name added to the pot.

Race - Incumbent mayor, council member to face off in November

FROM PAGE 1

impact communities.

Lambert said he hopes another four years will give him an opportunity to create more development opportunities with the city staff and the elected council.

He added that he is not worried about a "building backlash"

that has doomed other candidates.

"We're very concerned about the level of development we have, and we're looking at things very closely to make sure we're not over building," he said. "We're not going to build things up so much that our infrastructure can't support it. We don't want a situation like they

have over on Ford Road in Canton."

Other accomplishments Lambert said he believes will help him keep his job until 2009 include an aggressive drive to revitalize blighted areas and improve city services. He said his most important achievements were advocating for the expansion of a paid, full-time

fire department, building a new senior citizens center and tearing down about 140 blighted structures.

Voters will make the decision between Lambert and Romak during the general election on Nov. 8. Residents can still register to vote at the city clerk's office from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Council - Voters will reduce field of 18 during primary ballot

FROM PAGE 1

"I'm running for this seat because I think it's important to represent the people," he said. "If I'm elected, I promise that I will support whatever the people vote for - that's what an elected official is supposed to do." Crout is a first-time candidate.

Barden, an executive assistant to County Executive Robert Ficano, has never served in public office, said he is not unhappy with the current state of affairs in the city, but thinks he could bring a unique perspective to the board.

"I think it's time for some new blood," he said recently. "I have experience in government and in business that I think will be compatible with what's happening in the city right now. I'm at a time in my life when I want to give back a little."

Some potential office holders have sought office before,

I think it's time for some new blood.

I have experience in government

and in business that I think will be compatible with what's happening in the city right now.

John Barden

and others are currently sitting on other boards and commissions. Tony Heimberger and Leo Knasiak were candidates for two open school board seats earlier this year, but were unable to overcome board president Cheryle Buckley and secretary April Frayer, both of whom won their seats by a significant margin. Current school board member Niema White would have to give up her school board seat if she is elected to the council, as required by the city charter.

Several council members said the biggest issue during the next four years would be managing city finances.

When asked about the budget in May, Councilman William Wadsworth said, "We've been going through budget cuts at the state level, and in a way, we've been lucky that we have not had to cut services," he said. "In fact, we've expanded them. We've added to the fire department, the police department and kept the same number of people working in DPS."

The Sept. 13 primary will narrow the city council race to 14 candidates, who will compete for six open seats, Choate said. The top two vote getters will vie for the treasurer's seat. Then, another six weeks of intense campaigning will lead to the Nov. 8 general election, where voters will be asked to choose between Mayor Alan Lambert and Romak for mayor in addition to choosing a treasurer and six councilpersons.

Council members in Romulus are elected on an at-large basis.

Historically incumbents in Romulus generally have an advantage over challengers. In the past 20 years, only two incumbent candidates lost their seats to newcomers - in 1987 and again in 1993.

Romulus residents can still register to vote at the city clerk's office from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Assaults - Women will be charged this week in ethnic intimidation

FROM PAGE 1

"We tracked them down and interviewed all of them," he said. "We were able to find them because the bar manager had written down a license plate number."

The victim's face is still partially paralyzed as a result of the

assault, Lazarski said.

Ethnic intimidation does not appear to be a common occurrence in Romulus. Lazarski said he has seen it only a few times during three years in the detective bureau.

"It's not that common," he said. "It's always ridiculous. This is the first time that I have

seen it black on white."

Police are withholding the names of the accused - a 28-year-old Ecorse woman and a 27-year-old Romulus woman - because they have not been officially charged. Lazarski said the women involved in the ethnic intimidation case could be charged this week.

Charges could include felonious or misdemeanor assault - a four-year-felony or one year misdemeanor, respectively - in both cases. Ethnic intimidation charges - a provision that requires race, religion or creed as a motive for a crime - is punishable by two years in prison or a \$5,000 fine, or both.

Going for 'Gold'

Area auto dealer brings back hydroplane contest

Jason Carmel Davis
Staff Writer

When Jim Schebil was 12 years old, he and his friends would ride their bikes to Belle Isle to watch and listen to some of the fastest hydroplanes in the world at the Detroit Gold Cup races.

In his adult years, the president of the Chrysler Jeep Superstores Advertising Association, and president of Fox Hills Chrysler Jeep in Plymouth, has played an integral part in the resurrection of the Detroit River race.

About 15 years ago, the 100-year-old Gold Cup—widely regarded as the most prestigious race in the world—lost its major sponsor. Schebil, who was an advertising representative for Chrysler at the time, stepped in and put together the appropriate sponsorship to keep the competition alive.

"It was going south," he said. "The race had sponsors, but the organization was going the wrong way."

Schebil had a part in the formation of a new organizational unit for the event. The popularity of the event has been restored, thanks, in part, to Schebil's efforts. Each year, the race welcomes about 300,000 people over the three-day period.

"It's been a good marriage," Schebil said. "At times, the road was rocky, but we saved the race."

He's done more than just revive a dying competition. In 2002, Schebil was the sponsor of the winning hydroplane, appropriately dubbed Miss Fox Hills.

Only 100 names are on the age-old Gold Cup trophy, and Schebil was proud to have his on the list.

"I just hoped we'd finish," he said. "Then it just kept going and going, and it came around that rooster corner, and I knew we'd won. It was a great feeling to be involved with that."

Schebil also had the thrill of a lifetime when he had the opportunity to drive one of the hydroplanes.

"You can't do that anymore," he said. "The insurance companies won't allow it."

His office is lined with photos and news clippings from the race. That office is just one part of a business that has called Plymouth home for more than 20 years.

Schebil has sold cars since 1975. In 1982, after he was a part of a Detroit dealership for three years, he took up shop at his current location—111 Ann Arbor Road—and has been there for 23 years.

"It's been a nice ride," Schebil said. "People like doing business in Plymouth. They like to try and support the community."

That support is shown in sales. Schebil said that about 70 per-

*It was going south.
The race had sponsors,
but the organization was
going the wrong way.*

Jim Schebil

cent of the sales at Fox Hills each year are repeat customers or referrals. He attributes that to his staff, most of whom have worked at the Plymouth location for at



This is just one of the hydroplanes in the Detroit Gold Cup race on the Detroit River that Jim Schebil of Fox Hills Chrysler Jeep helped revive.

least 15 years.

"One nice thing about this is that we have very low turnover,"

Schebil said. "That gives the customers a chance to get to know us, and vice versa. The first sell is

always the toughest, but the second, third and fourth are always easier."

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OPINION

Still a bad idea

It's easy to see how important a .25 Wayne County Parks renewal is through the decision from Wayne County officials to place it on the August primary ballot. That's not because they want the decision any sooner; it's most likely because it has a better chance of being approved by voters, county wide. In fact, that presumption is enough for the county to pay for the election in communities that wouldn't otherwise have to put on a primary election.

It makes sense, for their part. With no local race to be decided, voters are less likely to head to the polls in the suburbs. That means the vote could be pushed through by voters in large municipalities like Detroit, even though suburban voters might reject the proposal.

It's a mystery to us how this millage request was ever approved when it was placed on the ballot in 2000. The concept of a tax that everyone would pay, with no guarantee when the money would flow back to the community, just didn't sound like a good idea then and it doesn't now. It might be different if there were some kind of guarantee that the money would be returned, but the idea of applying to get some of our tax dollars back just doesn't make sense.

It's hard to quantify how decisions for the disbursement of these grants was made during the past several years. Some communities needed set plans, while others were granted large grants even though they didn't have a defined plan to begin with.

It's true that the millage did accomplish several notable projects in Wayne County Parks, notably in Hines Park, which is geographically located in several communities throughout western Wayne County. Still, we think our local officials have a better idea of where that money should be spent.

Smart marketing pays off

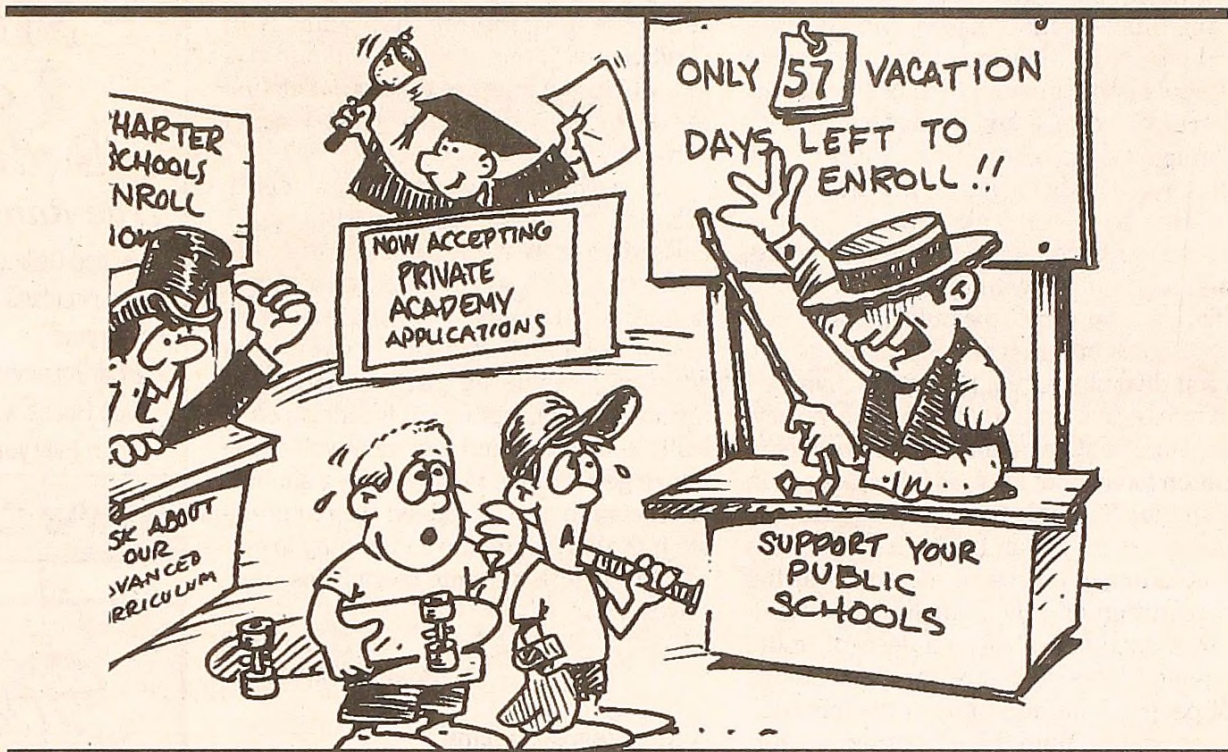
You have to spend money to make money. It's an old business adage that applies to virtually every type of firm, from small mom and pop shops that merely want to get their name out to large corporations that have to continually invest in new technologies and training to stay competitive. And now, it's something that more and more school districts are realizing.

Officials in school districts across the state have felt the pinch in the state economy. They've been forced to attempt to provide the same types of services, increase educational standards with funding that has remained relatively stagnant, given the dramatic increase in most of their expenses. A rally for increased educational funding that took place Tuesday morning at the steps of the capitol building was expected to draw more than 10,000 people. Not just school board members, teachers or school administrators, either, but concerned and outright angry parents, too. That should be a strong indicator of the importance of the issue.

It only makes sense at a time when all school districts are looking for more funding, that they should try to attract more students, too. That may be the only guaranteed way to bring more dollars into districts, because the state foundation allowance follows the students.

It might seem strange that a school district should have to advertise itself to its own residents, talk about its own accomplishments and try to lure in people from other districts, but it's a changing world. Competition is everywhere, from the neighboring districts themselves to private schools and the increasing number of charter schools – schools that take needed funding away from public school districts.

See **Schools**, page 6



The power of 'positive' persuasion

It will prove to be another interesting election season in the City of Westland.

I'm sure that all the candidates are breathing a sigh of relief to know there will be no primary election – or at least, one that they have to worry about. It generally means more time to get the word out, less expense and a relatively free summer.

Even so, it will be a difficult task for those challenging the incumbents for a seat on the council to win the day. The incumbent council members have a lot of accomplishments to talk about – both individual and collective – and they can further their own cause at every city council meeting, talking about why they did or did not vote for every item that comes before them.

Will it be a slam dunk for all four incumbents, though?

I doubt it. There are some high-profile names in the mix, including former mayor Bob Thomas, and Westland voters are usually kind to former mayors. The other three candidates have a lot of name recognition, too: Lori Brist, Normie Brazier and Jim Davis.

Obviously, our newspaper won't make any endorsements until after we've heard what everyone has to say and weigh their credentials to decide who would be the best choice for the residents and the future of the city.

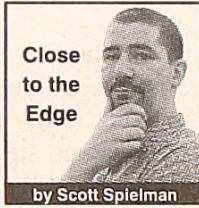
I'm still interested to see what approach everyone will take to the campaign, and I hope everyone

stays on the positive side of the fence. My ultimate pet peeve – and it goes for life, in general, as well as political campaigns – is people who feel it's necessary to cut down other people or cast their works in a negative light in order to make themselves look better.

At the beginning of every political season, I make the same type of request: let's keep it clean, let's keep it honest and let's keep it as friendly as possible. There are enough things to talk about: issues the city will face in the future, ideas to make things better and so on, that there's no need to dip into character assassinations, anonymous mailings and the like. Those kinds of things foster animosity and remember, this is a local election, a relatively small thing on the cosmic scale. And those you attack on the campaign trail might end up sharing the dais with you. That won't help anyone.

I always make this plea but it rarely happens, because there's a large contingent of people out there – in every community – that thinks negative campaigning not only works, but it's the most effective way to go.

That's a little sad, if you ask me. So, as candidates throughout the metro Detroit community are planning their individual campaigns, let's make it a goal to prove that theory wrong. Let's all stay positive and let the best man or woman win.



Close to the Edge

by Scott Spielman

Talk about a 'strawberry' jam

Another successful Belleville National Strawberry Festival has come and gone. As usual, the event seemed to go over smoothly but, with that aside, I'm sure I'm not the only one to say this: I'm glad it's over.

It's not because I don't enjoy carnival rides and stuffing my face until I feel nauseous or that I don't appreciate all the time, effort and energy that goes into the festival, it's because I can't stand impatient people. Particularly, impatient drivers.

Here's what happened on my way to the festival: My usual route to get to Belleville consists of taking I-275 to I-94, then getting off at the Belleville Road exit. The scary part? Taking I-275.

Typically, I'm not a nervous driver. In fact, I consider myself to be a very good driver, but when I have to drive that freeway, I not only lose confidence in my driving capabilities, but I fear for my life. My journey to the Strawberry Festival was no different.

I started off about 3 p.m. on Friday afternoon. At that time traffic is not unbearably bad, but still somewhat active. I merged onto the freeway and began the 20-minute drive from the office to Belleville. Everything was going fine when all the sudden, a car began to approach the right side of my vehicle. I thought to myself OK, no big deal, the

car's just speeding up. Then the driver began to merge over into my lane without a signal and apparently without even looking to see if another car was there.

That's when road-rage took over. I immediately honked my horn, swerving to avoid both the careless driver and others. I flailed my arm and blurted out profanities unsuitable for inclusion in a family newspaper. Then, as I sped up to pass the crazy driver, I looked over to find her staring straight ahead as if nothing ever happened.

I know, at least I hope, it was not her intention to drive me off the road, but I expected at least a wave of apology from the driver. I also know that unfortunately, this probably isn't the last time this type of situation will happen to me. However, I did let the careless driver get the best of me.

Needless to say, afterwards I did make it to the festival in one piece and certainly was a bit more cautious. My advice to anyone driving I-275: watch out for people driving 90 mph or above, who don't use their turn signals and who just don't care about other drivers.

Oh, yeah, and if you see someone driving down I-275 in a helmet and full body pads, it might just be me.



King's Court

by Andrea King

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Letters

School 'diversity' criticized

To the editor,

Residents of Romulus are most likely familiar with the publication "Perspectives", which is published by the school district in order to inform residents of current events and recent happenings throughout the school district. Not having children, it is not really of practical value to me, however I do read it anyway because I have numerous ties to the city and am familiar with many of the names that often appear in the publication.

Photos of a recent celebration of cultural diversity on the back page managed to make me a little uncomfortable, however, with the state of affairs in cultural education today, or at least, as it is practiced in Romulus. The only heritage that I saw celebrated was African heritage. To me, it is misleading to represent "diversity" as the recognition of only a single body of cultures, for those of African descent in the United States today are the descendants of people from hundreds of distinct societies, and to lump them together is a further injustice. It is also unjust, even fallacious, to see the alternative as simply "white", however, for those of us who are come from equally distinct societies. Diversity is the recognition of all these divisions and subdivisions as functioning components of the human whole.

Some may vehemently disagree, but the truth is that Romulus is not, in world terms, a diverse community, so if we are to imbue in children an appreciation for "diversity", then we must look beyond the boundaries of Van Born, Inkster, Pennsylvania and Hannan. We should all express our pride in the cultures from which our families came, but even that represents only a small portion of the world at large. Budget constraints make elaborate expeditions impossible for schools nowadays, but one of the nice things about living in a large metropolitan area is that you do not need to go far to see representatives of many cultures. Granted, the area around Detroit does not enjoy the truly worldly selection of Chicago, New York, Toronto or the many great European cities, but we can at least start the journey here. The new Arab-American museum in Dearborn or the Highland Festival in Livonia each August would be good examples of where to begin, even if it would be humble beginning to a potentially rich understanding. Schools, however, can only do so much. Museums and festivals can only do so much. Parents much also impart an appreciation of other cultures; for after all, how can you appreciate your own if you know nothing about others?

All this being said, my aim here is not to denigrate the efforts made by teachers and those involved in such celebrations of diversity, but merely to question the framing of the issue and the assumptions made when these ideas are put forth in my own community. I am interested in fairness above all else and not trying to promote more than a rework of the notion of "diversity" advanced by a particular mode of celebration. The world is such a dynam-

ic place that it would hardly not be possible to do everyone's culture justice in a school celebration, but I certainly feel that schools can do better than what is in "Perspective", and indeed, communities as a whole can improve their appreciation as well by properly discussing the issue of "diversity".

Above all else, we should teach children to be humane citizens of the world, and this begins with understanding the word "human", which requires a robust notion of "diversity". The main point is that it is clear that a vastly simplified "diversity" is being put forth in some instances, a concept which is anthropologically inadequate and may very well cause future generations to only have a shallow appreciation of it, if indeed they appreciate it at all. I call on the community to correct this before we quite literally lose ourselves.

Lorne Cook
Romulus, Michigan

Column missed a point

To the editor:

Great article re: the movie "Upside of Anger," don't miss.

However, how could you fail to mention this movie is based in the great State of Michigan. And the column appeared in *The Journal* during Michigan Week.

Harold Clement,
Lake Orion

Editor is thanked

To the editor:

Thanks for taking time out to be a guest auction for the WSDP Radio Auction. We enjoyed having you as a guest. Thanks for helping to make it such a successful event.

Through everyone's hard work, we raised more than \$10,400. We were blessed by the generosity of so many donors and listeners. I'm especially thankful for the continued support of New Liberty Bank as our title sponsor. This was an excellent start for our endowment campaign.

We look forward to making next year's auction even better. Thanks again for pitching in.

Bill Keith
Station Manager
88.1 FM WSDP

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Schools

FROM PAGE 5

Those efforts to attract new students are often fruitful, too. Take the Inkster School District, for example. At a time when the district is just now showing a fund balance - after being overseen by a state-appointed financial director for about three years - it might have been a stretch to allocate \$50,000 for a marketing campaign to keep Inkster students and

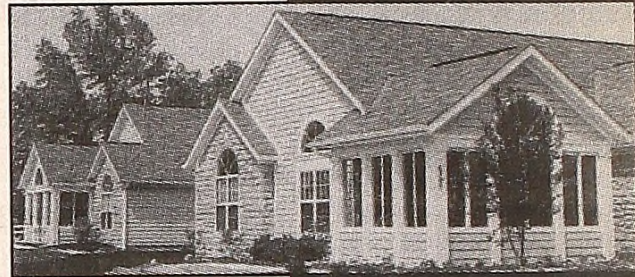
bring in new ones. That campaign has already proved a smart idea, though; the district has reported 20 new student registrations only a week after school recessed for the summer. Twenty students might not sound like a lot, but it represents a substantial return on the investment: they'll bring more than \$130,000 into the district.

Granted, this approach will not solve everyone's problems, because there are a limited number of students out there, and everyone is hurting for money. Even so, it's a good grass roots approach to a large problem.

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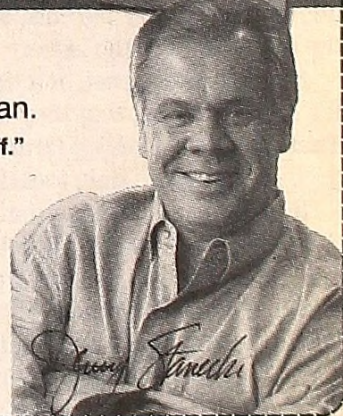
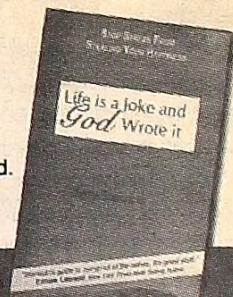
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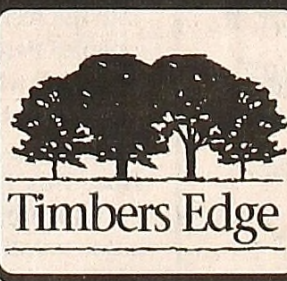
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Project Youth

Program provides scholarships for summer recreation

Andrea King
Staff Writer

When Jennifer Morris, recreation manager for the Van Buren Township Parks and Recreation Department, started working for the township, she brought Project Youth with her.

The community outreach program is designed to allow children ages 7 and older who are from low to moderate income families to participate in various recreation programs in the township, something that they might not be able to otherwise, according to Morris.

“A lot of other departments were offering this and I got involved with it because I love working with the youth. I try as much as possible to get kids in here to enjoy all our programs because they’re not only

educational, but they’re also fun and kids get a lot out of them,” she said.

Since starting the scholarship program more than four years ago, Morris said it has grown in popularity, which is something she wants to continue.

“It’s so beneficial because we know there are areas out here where families are on a lower end income,” she said. “It’s important to provide as much recreation as possible and, so far, we have never had to turn anyone down. Plus, we’re always looking for more donations so we can make the program bigger, better and able to last over the years.”

Through Project Youth, children have been able to participate in programs like the township summer camp, gymnastics, Tae Kwon Do and the Make it or Take It program. This year, project youth will offer



Through Project Youth, children of Van Buren Township can enjoy recreation programs like the summer camp pictured here.

scholarships to programs including: Get Up and Get Active, which gives children the chance to enjoy things like canoeing, tennis and fishing; a foreign language class, which teaches children German, French and Italian within four weeks; Takin’ It to the Streets, where children can drop in to enjoy outdoor games, sports and arts and crafts; Awesome Adventures, which involves horseback riding, rock wall climbing and other activity adventures; Tae Kwon Do and the township summer camp.

“When I call the parents to tell them they’ve received the scholarship, they’re so excited and extremely appreciative because it keeps kids out of trouble, gets

them out of the house and brings them into a safe and fun environment,” she said. “I love giving them the good news.”

Applicants who want to apply for this scholarship can call the recreation department at 734-699-8921. Guidelines include: a copy of your household income and why you would like to participate in a program. All information is confidential.

Children must also attend Van Buren Public Schools and will only qualify for one scholarship per year. Scholarships will be granted until the recreation department funds have been exhausted.

“I love to see the kids have a good time. That’s what makes my job worthwhile,” said Morris.



The Wayne County Mudfest was one of the many programs offered in the past from the Van Buren Township Recreation Department and Project Youth.

CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on **Tuesday, July 12, 2005 at 7:00 p.m.**, in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, Michigan 48111.

The Public Hearing relates to Parcel Number V125-83-038-99-0049-702, also known as 7981 Belleville Road. This property is located on the east side of Belleville Road, between Robson Road and Ecorse Road.

The subject site is located within the Charter Township of Van Buren R-1B (Single Family Residential) Zoning District. The applicant, Van Buren Township DDA, is requesting a 5 foot height variance to permit construction of a Fire Station with a total height of 35 feet.

The applicant is requesting the following:

ARTICLE XVII SECTION 17.02 SCHEDULE OF REGULATIONS, BUILDING HEIGHT, R-1B, Single Family Residential

- 30 foot building height allowed
- A 35 foot building height is proposed
- 5 foot building height variance is required

Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 5:00 p.m. on the date of the above reference Public Hearing.

In the spirit of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

Publish: June 23, 2005

NOTICE OF CLOSE OF REGISTRATION FOR WAYNE COUNTY SPECIAL ELECTION – PARKS MILL- AGE RENEWAL TUESDAY, AUGUST 2, 2005

To the Qualified Electors of
CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN– WAYNE COUNTY

Notice is hereby given that Tuesday, July 5, 2005 is the last day to register to vote or change your address for the above stated election.

If you are not currently registered to vote or have changed your address in the above stated jurisdiction in which you live, you may do so at the following locations and times listed in this notice.

Qualified electors may also register to vote or change their address in the following manners:

In Person:

- At the township clerk’s office or at the office of any county clerk during normal business hours.
- At any of the Secretary of State Branch offices located throughout the state during normal business hours.
- At the specified agency for clients receiving services through the Family Independence Agency, the Department of Community Health, Michigan Jobs Commission and some offices of the Commission for the Blind.
- At the military recruitment offices for persons enlisting in the armed forces.

By Mail:

By obtaining and completing a Mail Voter Registration Application and forwarding to the election official as directed on the application by the close of registration deadline. Mail voter registration applications may be obtained by contacting:

JOANNIE D. PAYNE, CLERK
734.699.8909
46425 TYLER RD.
VAN BUREN TOWNSHIP, MI 48111

Qualifications for Registration

1. Applicant is at least 18 years of age.
2. Resident of Van Buren Township for at least 30 days.
3. Citizen of the United States.

Note:

A Person who registers to vote by mail is required to vote in person unless they have previously voted in person in the city/township where they live or are at least 60 years of age or are handicapped.

Applications for Absentee Voter Ballots are available at the Clerk’s Office. The deadline for filing an application to receive an Absentee Ballot for the August 2, 2005 Special Election is Saturday, July 30, 2005, from 11:00 a.m. – 2:00 p.m. at the Clerk’s office.

Joannie D. Payne, CMC
Township Clerk

Publish: June 23, 2005
June 30, 2005

City seeks ideas for centennial celebration

The City of Belleville wants to recognize members of the community by honoring them at the Oct. 8 Centennial Celebration Dinner. Mayor Tom Fielder is on the lookout for people, churches and other organizations that have had a strong presence in the tri-community area.

Some of the categories include: the oldest living and permanent resident born in Belleville, Sumpter and Van Buren Township who has not left the area except for military service or special needs;

the longest residing family in the tri-community area, the oldest continuous service church and the oldest club or organization in the area.

Anyone is welcome to comment on these topics as well as other possible categories. Ideas can be mailed to: Mayor Tom Fielder, 6 Main St., Belleville, Mich, 48111. For more information, contact city hall at 734-697-9323. Information should include: date of birth, date residing or beginning date of organization. The deadline is June 30.

OBITUARIES

DEMARA, Susan

Susan F. DeMara, 79, of Wayne, formerly of Belleville, died June 11.

Among her survivors are her sons, John R. (Marikay) DeMara of Westland and Mark T. (Lisa) DeMara of Romulus; a sister, Helen Beach of North Adams, Mi; six grandchildren, and a great-grandson.

Mrs. DeMara worked for the University of Michigan Environmental Research Institute for 15 years. She was a volunteer at Annapolis Hospital and the Belleville Area Historical Museum.

Mrs. DeMara was a member of St. John's Episcopal Church in Westland and a former member of Trinity Episcopal Church in Belleville where she played the organ for many years.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with Father Arthur R. Mack officiating.

Interment of cremains was at Hillside Cemetery.

MCLENDON, Stella Lee

Stella Lee McLendon, 79, of Houston, Tex., died June 12.

Among her survivors are her brother, Herman S. (Elizabeth) Davis of Flatwoods, Ky, nieces and nephews, William R. (Shirley) Davis of Northville,

Gary Lee Davis of Belleville, Duane Earl (Anette) Davis of Belleville, Carol Lynn (Timothy) O'Connell of Indianapolis, Ind. and Linda Ann (Rodney) McRitchie of Belleville.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home in Belleville with Pastor Clarence Hayes officiating. Interment was at Union-Udell Cemetery in Ypsilanti Township.

COFFMAN, Laura

Laura B. Coffman, 71, of Romulus, died June 19.

Among her survivors are her sons, Clifford (Gloria) Coffman of Romulus, Billie Dee (Carol) Coffman, Jr. of Ypsilanti and robber Dee (Keile) Coffman of Wayne; sisters, Shirley L (Clifford) Sickles of Denton, Tex. And Dorothy L. (Lee) Howard of Dearborn Heights; six grandchildren, and seven great-grandchildren.

Mrs. Coffman worked as a lunchroom superintendent at Quirk Elementary School for more than 13 years.

Funeral services were at the David C. Brown Funeral Home with the Rev. John F. Losen officiating.

Inurnment of cremains was at Michigan Memorial Park in Flat Rock.

CITY OF ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL PUBLIC HEARING

Please be advised that the City of Romulus City Council has scheduled a Public Hearing to be held Tuesday, July 5, 2005 at 7:00 p.m., prevailing eastern time in the Romulus City Hall Council Chambers, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174-1485. The purpose of the meeting is to hear comments on the proposed special assessment roll for the Merriman Road enhancement project.

In accordance with Public Act 64 of 1989, please be advised that this statement serves as notice that appearance and protest at the July 5, 2005 public hearing is required in order to appeal the amount of the special assessment to the Michigan Tax Tribunal.

You must either appear in person at the public hearing or notify the City Clerk's Office by mail no later than 12:00 noon, Tuesday, July 5, 2005 in order to reserve your right to protest the amount of the special assessment.

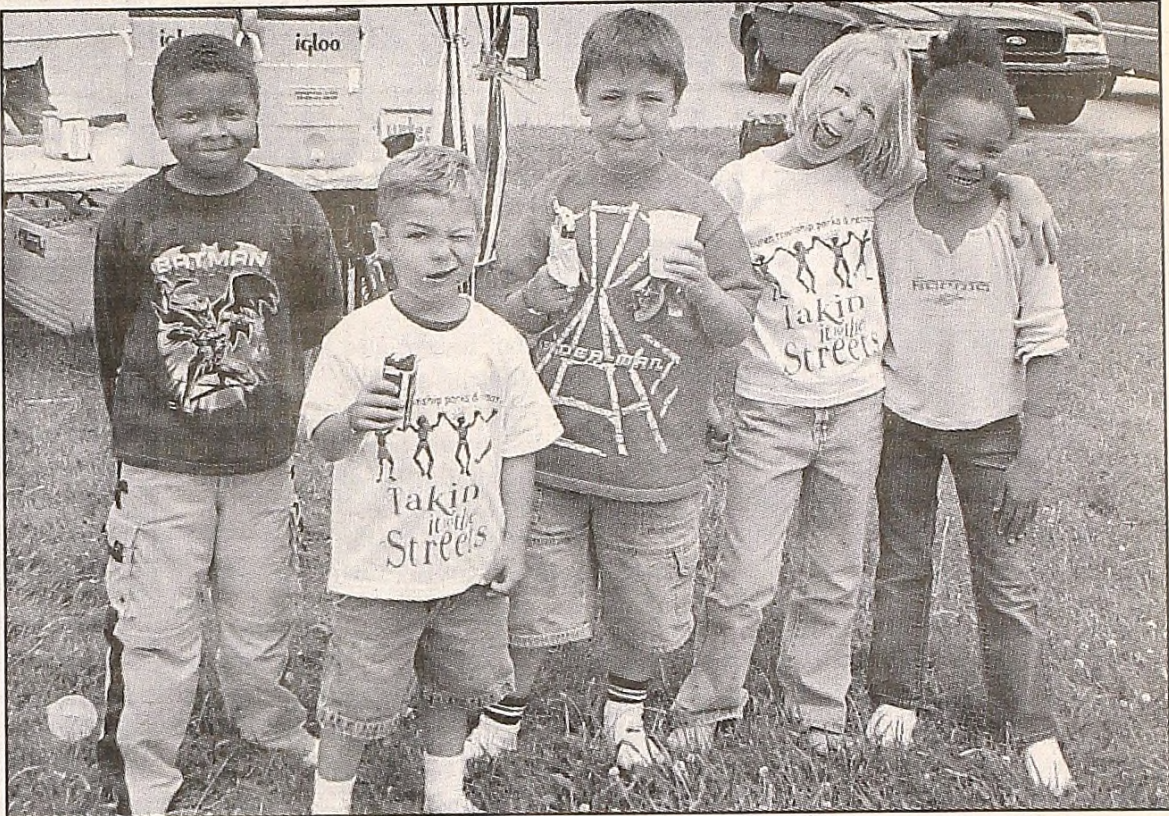
The estimated special assessment for each parcel in the Merriman Road enhancement district is on file at the Assessor's Office, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, MI 48174.

All interested citizens are encouraged to attend and will be given an opportunity to comment on said request.

Linda R. Choate, CMC,
City Clerk

THIS IS AN OPEN MEETING!

Publish: June 23, 2005



Takin' it to the Streets

The Van Buren Township Parks and Recreation Department took their new summer program to the streets of Tyler Elementary School last week. The free program, which takes place throughout the summer, included playground games, activities, crafts, a moonwalk, obstacle course, slide and much more. The next "Takin' it to the Streets" programs take place: July 14 at Edgemont Elementary School, July 21 at Wayne County Community College District in Belleville, Aug. 4 at Rawsonville Elementary School and Aug. 11 at Elwell Elementary School. Participants must be 12 years or younger and have completed a registration form on the day of the event. For more information or a registration card, contact the parks and recreation department at 734-699-8921.



CHARTER TOWNSHIP OF VAN BUREN BOARD OF ZONING APPEALS NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

The Charter Township of Van Buren Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a Public Hearing on Tuesday, July 12, 2005 at 7:00 p.m., in the Board of Trustees Room, 46425 Tyler Road, Charter Township of Van Buren, County of Wayne, Michigan 48111.

The Public Hearing relates to Parcel Number V125-83-101-01-0016-000. The properties are located on the east side of Lenmoore Avenue, north of Savage Road.

The subject site is located within the Charter Township of Van Buren R1-A (Single Family Residential) Zoning District. The applicant, Ronald Traskos, is requesting a variance to the Township's Lot Split Ordinance, Section 78-226.(4) to allow an increase in the width of the lot for a depth ratio of approximately 44 feet..

The applicant is requesting a variance to:

SECTION 78-226.(4) LOT SPLIT ORDINANCE

Written comments will be accepted at the Department of Developmental Services until 5:00 p.m. on the date of the above reference Public Hearing.

In the spirit of compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, individuals with a disability should feel free to contact the Department of Developmental Services at least seventy-two (72) hours in advance of the meeting, if requesting accommodations.

Publish: June 23, 2005

SPORTS

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Belleville falls to Portage Northern in state quarterfinal

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

Coming off a huge regional championship against the Canton Chiefs, the Belleville Lady Tiger softball team's hopes of a state championship were dashed when they faced off against Portage Northern in a Division 1 quarterfinal match up last Tuesday in Chelsea.

The Tigers fell, 3-1.

"We had our chances," said Belleville Coach Peg Curtis.

Their biggest inning was the fourth, when they had bases loaded. They scored one run and had a chance for another that would have tied things up at 2-2, but a controversial call landed senior catcher/infielder Michelle Davenport out.

"We thought their catcher blocked home plate before she had the ball," Curtis said. "But the umpire didn't see it our way."

Belleville grounded out of the inning and Northern kept their 2-1 lead.

It was probably the best season we had since we won the Regional championship in 1984.

Peg Curtis

Northern then added another run in the fifth inning to boost their lead to 3-1.

Belleville threatened again in the sixth when Davenport launched a shot deep into center with speedy junior Tiffany Jablonski on base, but the centerfielder made a spectacular running over-the-shoulder catch to spoil the opportunity.

Senior hurler Nicole Bliven recorded the loss with one strikeout and two walks.

Jablonski led the offense with a double and a single in the contest. Davenport and senior first baser Cindy

McGoldrick both had singles in the game.

"On days that we beat good teams like when we beat Canton we made some great catches defensively and made some key hits when we needed them," Curtis said. "We just didn't do that this time."

Northern later lost, 1-0, to the defending State Champs, Harper Woods Regina.

Belleville ended the season 27-10 overall.

"It was probably the best season we had since we won the Regional championship in 1984," Curtis said. "It was a good year. I had talked to the seniors about leaving a legacy. They certainly raised the bar."

Belleville lost six seniors to graduation but will return a good core of underclassman next year as well as a promising new group that will be brought up from the junior varsity team that only lost two games this season.

"Hopefully we'll pick up where we left off or close to it," Curtis said.

Curtis, who just finished her 28th year as head coach plans to return along with the rest of her staff for another season.

Plymouth Whalers sign rookie goaltender, Smith, to roster

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The Plymouth Whalers signed 16-year-old goaltender Jeremy Smith to the line-up last week.

Smith hails from Brownstown, Michigan and was the Whalers' fourth-round (64th overall) pick in last month's 2005 Ontario Hockey League Priority Draft.

"We think Smith's the best goalie in the draft," said Mike Vellucci, Plymouth's president, general manager and head coach. "We're happy to take him where we did."

He's one of the best goaltenders in the United States. Every time we watched him last year, he was outstanding.

Jim Debenham
Head Scout,
Plymouth Whalers

Outstanding play from Smith last year caught the eyes of Plymouth head scout Jim Debenham.

"He's one of the best goaltenders in the United States," Debenham said. "Every time we watched him last year, he was outstanding. There was a game at the OHL Cup Tournament last spring when he allowed eight goals in the game and was named the star of the game. He must have stopped 50 shots and still gave up eight and was called the best player in the game."

Last season, Smith posted an impressive 2.44 goals against average with three shutouts in 39 games with the Belle Tire minor midjets.

Smith said several factors lead his family's decision to sign with Plymouth.

"There wasn't just one thing; it was the entire package," Smith said. "I love the idea of being able to stay at home while playing for the Whalers. Everyone we've met has been unbelievably nice, especially Mr. Vellucci. I met a lot of the players at (Rookie) camp and they all seem like a good group of guys. I have no regrets."

There's no saying if Smith will see ice time right away or not. Plymouth, 30-29-6-3 last season, played with 20-year-old Ryan Nie in net for a majority of the games (57), while last year's rookie minder Justin Garay jumped in for 22. Garay will be back as a veteran this year and Nie could return as an overage player, according to the Plymouth front office.

Smith and the rest of the Whalers will report to the start of training camp on Wednesday, Aug. 31 at the Compuware Sports Arena in Plymouth Township.

Madden accepts USA Hockey position

Plymouth's customer sales, service and game-night coordinator Andy Madden accepted a position with the USA

Hockey's National Team Development Program (NTDP) in Ann Arbor.

Starting in July, Madden will leave his post in the Whaler's head office and take over as the NTDP's Media Relations/Marketing Coordinator.

"We wish Andy well," Vellucci said. "He was an important member of our staff. I'm sure he will do well in Ann Arbor for USA Hockey and the NTDP program."

Madden had several responsibilities with the Whalers ranging from coordinating game night activities and assisting the sales and marketing team with box-office and corporate sales support. He also worked as the team's educational consultant.

"Andy brings both passion and expertise to the rink," said Rob Murphy, Plymouth's director of corporate sales and marketing. "Like the Whalers on the ice, we're working hard to improve the entire game night experience for our fans. Andy was instrumental in helping achieve that goal last season for the Whalers."

With the help of Madden, the Whalers set a single-season attendance record during the 2004-05 season when they averaged 3,300 fans per game at the Compuware Sports Arena with 12 sellouts through 34 regular season games and two playoff dates.

"We like Andy's background," said Scott Monaghan, USA Hockey and NTDP director of operations. "He's well-trained and prepared. His experience with the Plymouth Whalers and elsewhere make him a viable candidate for our position. We think Andy will do well here."

Madden previously worked at the Professional Athlete Transition Institute while completing his MBA program at

Quinnipiac University in Hamden, CT. As a native of Detroit, Madden graduated from Central Michigan University in 2002 with a degree in Business administration. On the ice he was an All-American goaltender for the Central Michigan club hockey team.

Not for Sale!

It seems like every year after the Whalers' season ends and summer approaches rumors start flying that owner Peter Karmanos Jr. is entertaining the idea of selling the team.

Vellucci squashed these rumors last week.

"I can assure you the rumors are 100 percent false and inaccurate," he said in a letter posted on the team website.

"As an organization, we will continue the tradition of excellence that has been the hallmark of Plymouth Whaler hockey for the last 15 years," he added. "Peter Karmanos Jr. has sponsored junior hockey in Detroit for over 20 years. It is his passion and will continue to be his passion."

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WaCo Wolves top Oakland, remain state champs

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

The WaCo Wolves remained state champions after winning the 10-under Continental Amateur Baseball Association (CABA) Michigan State Championship at the Kyte Monroe baseball complex in St. Claire Shores.

They returned to the top after capturing their first state title for the Wolves family as a 9-under team in 2004.

The Wolves opened pool play Friday night against the Chesterfield Raptors. They made quick work of the Raptors, ending the game in 3 innings with a 17-1 mercy rule victory, said coach Art Cameron. WaCo opened with three runs in the first inning, and followed up with eight more in the second inning and finished with six in the third.

Cody Cowart (Dearborn) led the attack with three singles, three RBI and three runs scored. Jacob McCulloch (Livonia) scored twice with two RBI and two singles. Dimitrius Bryant

(Detroit) added three RBI. Kyle Gaines (Oxford) was the winning pitcher, going all three innings. He allowed one run and struck out six.

The start of Saturday's pool play placed the Wolves up against the Macomb Muddogs. Again, the Wolves ended the contest early. This time it was with a 13-2, four-inning mercy.

The Wolves struck early and often. They scored one run in the first, added seven more in the second inning, followed by three in the third and two in the fourth inning.

Four different Wolves scored twice in this game: Gaines, Jake Keeley (Allen Park), Brady Hardin (Livonia) and Jared Terrill (Huntington Woods). Bryant offered two singles and two RBI while Hardin added two singles. Jamarl Eiland (Romulus) and Keeley split time on the mound. Eiland picked a runner off first and Daniel Cameron (Livonia) threw out a runner attempting to steal.

The Saturday routing left the Wolves with only one crossover

The Wolves struck early and often. They scored one run in the first, added seven more in the second inning, followed by three in the third and two in the fourth inning.



Members of the WaCo Wolves 10-U team include: Daniel Cameron, Brady Hardin and Jacob McCulloch of Livonia; Jake Keeley of Allen Park; Jared Terrill of Huntington Woods; Jamarl Eiland of Romulus; Jacob Pacholski and Cody Cowart of Dearborn; Tyler Glenfield of Garden City; Kyle Gaines of Oxford; Dimitrius Bryant of Detroit; and Joey Roman of Canton. The team is coached by Bill Hardin, Dave Cowart, Art Cameron and Kevin Gaines.

game for Sunday against the S. Oakland A's. Here, the Wolves were looking to redeem one of their four losses of the season. That they did. WaCo posted a 7-0 shutout victory over the A's.

Bryant and Gaines pitched in the contest. They combined for four strikeouts.

Brad Connochie (Woodhaven) threw out a runner trying to steal in the first inning and a Keeley to Joey Roman (Canton) to Jacob Pacholski (Dearborn) double play ended the game for the Wolves.

Seven different Wolves scored

in the contest. Cowart had two singles and two RBI to lead the pack.

The victory set up a rematch in the finals with the A's, as they won their pool. For the third time of the weekend, the Wolves ended the game early - this time with a 13-2 mercy.

The Wolves struck early. Cowart reached base on an error with two outs in the first inning, then Bryant launched a 218' homerun over the right center field fence for a 2-0 lead, according to Art Cameron. After a scoreless second inning the Wolves

busted the game open with eight third-inning runs. Tyler Glenfield (Garden City) had a walk and a double while Cowart went 3-for-3 with three singles, three runs scored and two RBI. Daniel Cameron contributed a two-run double in the third frame.

Terrill got the victory from the mound for his second straight State Championship game. He pitched the entire game allowing only two runs on four hits.

The Wolves now head to Cooperstown, NY for a weeklong 80-team tournament from 27 states.

JERRY STANECKI, THE NEWSHAWK ASKS FOR YOUR HELP

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Jerry Stanecki

Jerry Stanecki

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THE SCENE

BATMAN BEGINS

Movie earns praise from comic book fan

Film is worthwhile for plot, direction

Movie-goers beware: this is not your father's Batman.

No, the masked vigilante served up in *Batman Begins* will probably appeal more to the fans of the character than it will fans of the film franchise.

Gone are the grand entrances, the flamboyant super villains, slick set designs and overproduced special effects. They are replaced by creepy, evil men and an anti-hero short on smiles and head bobs who uses fear and darkness as the ultimate weapons in his vaunted utility belt.

This is how Batman should be.

Written by director Christopher Nolan and David S. Goyer, the film thankfully forgets the films that have come before and focuses on a re-telling of the Batman legend. It provides flesh to the bones of it, too. We all know how Batman came to be: he witnessed the murder of his parents and vowed to become something criminals would fear.

Nolan and Goyer provide more, here. We catch a rare glimpse of Bruce Wayne's relationship with his father and mother. Until I saw it, I hadn't realized I had missed that part of the story. It makes sense, though. Sure, it would be traumatic to see your parents gunned down in front of you. The tragedy is increased when we know that they were good parents and that they had dedicated their lives and their wealth to helping Gotham City through humanitarian efforts and that Bruce carries feelings of guilt because he made them leave the theater early that night.

Christian Bale takes up the mantle of the Dark Knight. When we first see him in the opening moments of the movie, he's unrecognizable as Bruce Wayne. Of course he's bearded and mud-died in some sort of prison in an unnamed although presumably Asian country. He is at the tail end of a long journey to get inside the criminal mind at that point—as well as to toughen up his body. When he gets in a fight with a self-described son of Satan in the prison yard, he tells the bully:

"You're not the devil. You're practice."

After the fight he is thrown into solitary confinement—to

I'm not considered a comic book fan by some people. I just need to clarify that.

I've had my years of comic collecting, however, even though I've put those years far behind me—unlike some people around here. I generally don't like movies made from comic books, either; there's a certain aspect of the comic genre that can't be brought to life on the big screen.

However, I found *Batman Begins* to be strangely moving and satisfying, but I consider this a 'film' not a 'movie.'

What's the difference?

A film is what you watch and are drawn into by the story and characters. It is something that can be thought about, dissected and critiqued. There's more to it than just entertainment. Movies, on the other hand, tend to hypnotize audiences with special effects, big-name casts and bad acting.

With Christopher Nolan's *Batman Begins* there's plenty more to talk about than those 'amazing effects,' of which there are surprisingly few. Unlike the *Spiderman* flicks, where 50 percent of the scenes appear computer generated, or the *X-Men* movies that rely on the Big Bang theory (you know: big bangs equal big bucks at the box office) *Batman Begins* concentrates on characters and story.

And unlike the preceding Caped Crusader movies, Nolan explores the origins of the Dark Knight—with an emphasis on dark—where as his predecessors concentrated more on developing the villain played by an overpaid actor. Nolan actually made a Batman movie about Batman.

The most fascinating thing that Nolan, whose claim to fame was his incredibly made indy *Memento*, does is give us background on Bruce Wayne that delves into the relationship that he had with his parents—something not done to this point.

Nolan's cast is an impressive one, filled with big-name stars that somehow remain ego-less—something else not seen thus far. Christian Bale dons the bat armor. I have mixed feelings about his portrayal of Bruce Wayne, but he will do. Katie Holmes plays Rachel Dawes, Wayne's childhood friend who becomes an assistant district attorney. Again, I have mixed feelings about her performance. But Wayne's fatherly butler, Alfred, is played by a brilliant Michael Caine. Gary Oldman is cast perfectly as Jim Gordon, one of the only good cops left in Gotham. Morgan Freeman is the brilliant scientist Lucius Fox.

On the other side of good are stellar performances by Liam Nee-

See Film,
page 12

See Fan,
page 12

Reviewed By
Scott Spielman
Editor

Reviewed By
Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

THE SCENE

Film

FROM PAGE 11

son who is Wayne's self-proclaimed mentor, Henri Ducard, and Tom Wilkinson who plays the underworld leader Carmine Falcone to the tee. There's also Ken Watanabe who's the front man for the League of Shadows, Ra's Al Ghul; Rutger Hauer who plays the greedy CEO of Wayne Enterprises Richard Earle; and Cillian Murphy who plays the creepy doctor Jonathan Crane.

There's no doubt about it, *Batman Begins* is dark. It's nearly pitch black, in fact, in its sense of mood, theme and tormented characters. The darkness reaches from the back alleys of Gotham to the depth of Bruce Wayne's torment.

When we first meet the Wayne, it's in a flashback where we see him traumatized by an incident with—you guessed it—bats. He is later broken by guilt after witnessing his parents' murder.

Then we find a grown-up Wayne in an unnamed third-world country enduring the life of a prisoner as part his research into the nature of evil. There, the mysterious Ducard rescues him and invites him to climb to a temple at the top of the world. Ducard teaches him the secret ways of the League of Shadows, a vigilante group led by Guhl that's been around for centuries, waging war against corruption.

As a final initiation, Wayne must kill an untried prisoner. He refuses, barely escapes and returns to Gotham where he decides to fight evil his own way. "To fight injustice and turn fear against those who prey on the fearful."

The plot has such a staggering number of villains and subplots attached to it, with the crime lord Falcone, a corrupt city, the



Scarecrow, the League of Shadows and Wayne's internal anguish, that it almost seems unmanageable. However, Nolan guides us through it with ease and, at times, eloquence.

There were some things I didn't like. I know, surprise, surprise. I never found Bale to be believable as Wayne and there were times when he tried to be menacing as Batman, which I thought came off as laughably goofy. I also wasn't keen on Holmes as Dawes. She seemed too young for the part.

I liked the way Nolan stressed the fact that Batman was merely human with no superpowers. At first, the crusader appeared clumsy. He seemed to grow into the role, rather than being a perfect crime fighter.

Here we have *Batman Begins*, a film that forgoes the normal special effect-laden route, and relies on story and characters for strength. This is a film about a man fueled only with the power of vengeance.

Batman Begins is definitely worth seeing, no matter what some people, comic book fans or not, might say.

Fan

FROM PAGE 11

protect the rest of the prison population.

That's where he meets Henri Ducard (Liam Neeson), who appears rather suddenly and knows an awful lot about Wayne. Ducard is an emissary for one of Batman's long-standing opponents, Ra's Al Ghul (choose your spelling and pronunciation, there). He springs Bruce, who journeys to a mountain compound where he continues his training under Ducard and the League of Shadows. There he finds his 'path,' but a disagreement over an ordered execution leaves the two men as enemies. There are many explosions, as Ra's is left for dead.

Meanwhile, back in Gotham, things aren't going to well. The criminal underworld is taking over — led by crime boss Carmine Falcone (Tom Wilkinson, who so completely assumes the role of a ruthless, soulless criminal that I will probably cross the street and walk the other way if I ever happen on him strolling nearby).

Wayne Enterprises is about to be made public by a money-grabbing and equally ruthless CEO, Earle (Rutger Hauer). The Gotham City Police Department has only one non-corrupt officer; it seems, a young Jim Gordon played admirably by Gary Oldman.

Can Bruce return after seven years, make good with his childhood sweetheart (Katie Holmes), save his crumbling empire and assemble his cache of tools needed for his own pursuit of justice?

Of course he can, but it's hardly a smooth journey, and he has a lot of help along the way.

Michael Caine does an admirable job as Alfred Pennyworth and Morgan Freeman plays Lucius Fox, an aging inventor that keeps a remarkable stash of military cast-offs in his basement laboratory.

I liked they way they put together everything that Bruce will use in his costumed persona and the thought that went into those sequences.

In a movie like this, I've always thought the supporting cast was equally, if not more, important than the guy who gets into the suit. Cillian Murphy is just plain creepy as Dr. Jonathan Crane and downright scary as The Scarecrow. Oldman is perfect as Gordon.

Bale is better as Batman than Bruce Wayne, though.

The script does contain a few eye-rolling moments of unnecessary — and unbelievable dialogue, and the fight scenes were a little too choppy for my tastes. It's hard to tell what's going on if it looks like the camera was suspended from a bungee chod.

Despite those minor distractions, however, the film is a solid one; a good telling of the Batman legend. It almost turned me into a fanboy.

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THE SCENE

The people's choice

New biography shows real side of hero

Jeff Novak
Staff Writer

"The People's Champion" is a story of a young man who rose up from the Jeffries Projects in Detroit and became one of the most beloved sports icons in the nation.

Born on Oct. 18, 1942 as the 21st child to Lillian and Clinton Horton, 'Willie the Wonder's' fascinating story truly begins in Virginia when, at the age of 11, he takes a long and lonely walk to a baseball tryout in Appalachia. That's essentially when his baseball career started. His coach at the time, Junior Strong, wouldn't let him practice batting against pitchers of his age. Instead he took him off to the side so he could face a "higher caliber pitcher." From there, the rest is history.

Before Horton started high school at Northwestern in Detroit, his father appointed the esteemed Judge Damon Keith as his legal guardian. He became a positive role model, mentor and advisor to Horton. It worked. Horton grew into a kind and loving individual—not to mention a fantastic ball player.

Horton's big break came in on June 9, 1959 when he nailed a 450-foot home run over the right-center field roof of Briggs Stadium, which later became Tiger Stadium. He was only 16, a sophomore playing in the Public School League championship against Cass Tech.

Before he turned 18, Horton had several teams interested in him, including the Boston Red Sox, Cincinnati Reds and the New York Yankees. But his father pushed hard for the Tigers. With a signing bonus of about \$50,000, one of the franchise's greatest players was born. On that day his father made him promise that he would never forget that baseball was about the fans and providing for his family—it wasn't a hobby anymore. The rest of the book tells his story of trying to fulfill that promise.

From there, Horton takes us on a fabulous journey through his time in the minors and his first chance in the pros—hitting a home run in his second-ever at bat in The Bigs. Along the way, he shares his insights on racism, spirituality and the

love of the game.

He tells of the horrific incident that led him to save the life of fellow teammate and current hall-of-famer Al Kaline as well as the moment that he stood on the hood of his car in 1967 pleading for peace amongst the rioters.

On the lighter side of things, Horton describes the outrageous antics of the 1968 Tigers that won the franchise's first World Series in almost 25 years. He talks

about individual personalities of teammates Dick McAuliffe, Ray Oyler, Bill Freehan, Mickey Stanley, Mickey Lolich, Joe Sparma, Norm Cash, Gates Brown and countless others that have graced the Tigers' locker room.

He also offers his opinion as to why he and his teammates couldn't repeat in 1969 and why

he left the team in the middle of a game and went AWOL for four days. He delves into his life as an aging player, too, about being traded and he explains how he ended up managing in the Venezuelan Winter League, where he led the Valencia Magallanes to a Caribbean World Series championship.

Horton's story goes full circle when his career landed him back in Detroit. He returned to the city to take part in the Detroit Tigers Fantasy Camp and as the city's Police Athletic League director. And then finally he describes his journey back in to the Tigers' organization as Special Assistant to Baseball Operations in 2001.

"The People's Champion," written by Kevin Allen and published by Immortal Investments Publishing, is truly a wonderful book for Horton fans and baseball enthusiasts in general.

The story of Willie Horton shows that he really is the people's champion.

"The People's Champion: Willie Horton" cannot be found in bookstores but can be ordered from Immortal Investments Publishing at www.immortalinvestments.com or by calling (800) 475-2066. Other titles from Immortal Investments Publishing include: "Mr. & Mrs. Hockey: A Tribute to the Sports' Greatest Couple," "The Grateful Gadsby," "Eddie Feigner: From Orphan to a King," and "OttoMatic: Otto Graham."

Horton's big break came in on June 9, 1959 when he nailed a 450-foot home run over the right-center field roof of Briggs Stadium, which later became Tiger Stadium.



Willie Horton is still active today. He's seen here with Wayne County Executive Bob Ficano at a grand opening celebration for the Ford Family and Learning Services facility in Wayne.

MICHAEL J. REDDY OF IMMORTAL INVESTMENTS PUBLISHING PRESENTS

**THE PEOPLE'S
Champion**

Willie Horton

KEVIN ALLEN

Foreword by **AL KALINE**

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MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE
ROMULUS CITY COUNCIL HELD JUNE 6, 2005 I
N THE COUNCIL CHAMBER ROMULUS CITY HALL,
11111 S. WAYNE ROAD, ROMULUS, MICHIGAN 48174.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 p.m. by Mayor Pro Tern Randolph Gear.
Present: LeRoy Burcroff, William Crova, Randolph Gear, Charles Miller, Michael Prybyla, Debbie Romak.
Excused: William Wadsworth.
Administrative Officials in Attendance:
Alan Lambent, Mayor
Linda R. Choate, CMC, Clerk
Pamela Morrison-Kersey, CMFA, Treasurer

1. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to approve the agenda as amended.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Prybyla, Prybyla, Romak.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-197

2. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Miller to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held June 13, 2005, with corrections.

Poll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla.
Nays - None.
Abstain - Romak.
Motion Carried.

05-198

3A. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Miller to grant a no-fee permit to the Romulus Civic League for a Flea Market and Bar-be-que sale, to held on July 16, 2005, from 8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Miller, Prybyla, Romak.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-199

3B. Motion by Romak, supported by Burcroff to concur with Coordinator, Emergency Management, Margaret Leduc and adopt the National Incident Management System Plan to have all governmental agencies operate under the same system, Unified Incident Command System, using the same terminology and upgrading communications for interoperable capability.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-200

4A. Motion by Crova, supported by Prybyla to adopt a memorial resolution to the family of Edward S. Kobylasz.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-201

4B. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Romak to adopt a resolution congratulating The Romulus Wesleyan Methodist Church on its 150th Church Anniversary.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

4. Motion by Romak, supported by Burcroff to accept the Chairman’s report.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-202

5A. Motion by Miller, supported by Crova to concur with D.P.W. Director, Carl Brooks and grant authorization for the Department of Public Works to proceed with JDE to do the necessary emergency repairs for the Road Grader, Model #670, at a cost of \$3,000.00.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-203

5B. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to introduce Budget Amendment 04/05-25:

FUND/DEPT. ACCOUNT NO.	ACCOUNT NAME	CURRENT BUDGET	AMENDMENT	AMENDED BUDGET
General Fund				
Revenues				
101-0000-410.60-65	Cable Administrative Fee	0	14,192	14,192
101-0000-410.60-66	Retirees Ins. Admin. Fee	0	60,249	60,249
101-0000-410.60-67	DDA Admin. Fee	0	4,500	4,500
101-0000-410.60-68	TIFA Admin. Fee	0	14,294	14,294
101-0000-410.60-69	Motor Vehicle Admin. Fee	0	48,797	48,797
101-0000.410.60-71	Technology Services Adm. Fee	0	5,342	5,342
101-0000.410.60-72	Property & Liability Adm. Fee	0	10,579	10,579
101-0000-410.67-80	Water-Sewer Adm. Fee	838,634	102,103	940,737
Fund Balance				
101.0000-390-00-00		AVAILABLE	APPROPRIATE	BALANCE
		1,382,535	260,056	1,642,591
Cable Fund				
Expenditures				
211-5140-751.74-43	Payments to Administrator	0	14,192	14,192
Fund Balance				
211-0000-390.00-00	Fund Balance	188,260	(14,192)	174,068
DDA Fund				
Expenditures				
295-7410-774.75-13	Payments to Administrator	0	4,500	4,500
Fund Balance				
295-0000-390.10-01	Fund Balance	487,655	(4,500)	483,155

TIFA Fund				
Expenditures				
297-7210-772.75-13	Payments to Administrator	0	14,294	14,294
Fund Balance				
297-0000-390.10.01	Fund Balance	4,878,031	(14,294)	4,863,737
FUND/DEPT. ACCOUNT NO.				
Motor Vehicle Fund				
Expenditures				
661-4410-744.75-13	Payments to Admin.	0	48,797	48,797
Retained Earnings				
661-0000-395.00-00	Retained Earnings	1,352,016	(48,797)	1,303,219
Technology Services Fund				
Expenditures				
664-2320-723.75-13	Payments to Admin.	0	5,342	5,342
Retained Earnings				
664-0000-395.00.00	Retained Earnings	469,774	(5,342)	464,432
Retirees Insurance				
Expenditures				
676-8110-881.75-13	Payments to Admin.	0	60,249	60,249
Retained Earnings				
676-0000-395.00.00	Retained Earnings	1,904,717	(60,249)	1,844,468
Property & Liability Fund				
Expenditures				
677-810-882.75-13	Payments to Admin.	0	10,579	10,579
Retained Earnings				
677-0000-395.00-00	Retained Earnings	476,790	(10,579)	466,211
Water & Sewer Fund				
Expenditures				
592-4510-745.74-36	Admin Water Salaries	231,513	2,329	233,842
592-4571-745.74-37	Admin Water Fringes	101,493	4,511	106,004
592-4571-745.74-38	Admin Water Utilities	61,176	48,579	109,755
592-4510-745.74-41	Admin Water Computer	15,904	-4,367	11,537
592-4520-745.74-30	Admin Sewer Salaries	231,513	2,329	233,842
592-4520-745.74-31	Admin Sewer Fringes	101,493	4,511	106,004
592-4520-745.74-33	Admin Sewer Utilities	61,176	48,578	109,754
592-4520-745.74-35	Admin Sewer Computer	15,904	-4,367	11,537
Retained Earnings				
592-0000-395.00.00	Retained Earnings	6,680,750	(102,103)	6,578,647
To properly allocate administrative charges to all funds serviced by the General Fund.				

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-204

5C. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Burcroff to introduce Budget Amendment 04/05-26:

FUND/DEPT. ACCOUNT NO.	ACCOUNT NAME	CURRENT BUDGET	AMENDMENT	AMENDED BUDGET
General Fund				
Revenues				
101-0000-410.44-50	Penalty & Interest on Taxes	100,000	14,400	114,400
101-0000-410.44-70	Admin Fee on Taxes	650,000	25,600	675,600
Expenditures				
101-1410-714.77-30	Contractual Services	22,000	40,000	62,000
To appropriate funds due to additional delinquent personal property tax collections by the Treasurer’s independent contractor.				

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-205

5D. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Miller to concur with the Purchasing Coordinator Lynn Conway, and approve the extension of Bid #03/04-23 with SLC Meter Service, Inc., for the acquisition of meter/transponders and radio transponders add needed during the next budget year and further authorize the purchase of four (4) hand held meter reading devices with recharging cradles at a total cost of \$7,200.00.

Roll Call Vote: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-206

5E. Motion by Miller, supported by Romak to concur with the administration and approve the 1% increase in the non-union employees city pension contribution, pursuant to Section 38-9-1 of the City of Romulus Employees Pension Plan effective July 1, 2005.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

5F. Motion by Crova, supported by Burcroff to authorize the Municipal Employees’ Retirement

System to increase the pension multiplier from 2.5% to 3% for the POAM Division 2 and administrative Division 21 effective July 1, 2005.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-208

5G. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Crova to concur with the administration and grant authorization to retain Steven H. Schwartz & Associates to further represent the City of Romulus in labor negotiations.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-209

5H. Motion by Romak, supported by Crova to schedule a Public Hearing for Monday, June 27, 2005, at 7:00 p.m for the purpose of discussing the Assessment Roll for the Merriman Road Enhancement Maintenance Project.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Prybyla, Romak.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

Legislators push bills to restrict trash imports

The Michigan members of the Energy and Commerce Committee—Rep. John Dingell, Rep. Fred Upton, Rep. Bart Stupak and Rep. Mike Rogers are pushing Bill 2491, which is the International Solid Waste Importation and Management Act of 2005, out of the energy and commerce subcommittee on environment and hazardous waste.

The legislation would help address the ongoing state problem with imported waste from Canada by requiring the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to implement and enforce the bilateral agreement both countries signed in 1992. It would also give Michigan more authority to regulate foreign waste until the final EPA regulation to implement and enforce the agreement became effective, according to legislators.

More specifically, the bill would: require Canada to notify the U.S. within 24 months before the shipment of waste is made, the EPA to give considerable deference to the desire of the state and locality that will receive the waste as to whether or not allow the shipment, the EPA to consider the effect of importation on continued support for recycling programs, landfill capacity, air emissions

”

After fighting for years to end Michigan's trash nightmare, at last we are moving toward a real solution.

Mike Rogers

from increased vehicular traffic, road deterioration, as well as the impact on homeland security, public health and the environment and allow states to enact laws or issue regulations that are consistent with international trade obligations imposing limitations on the receipt and disposal of foreign municipal solid waste until the final EPA agreement becomes effective.

“I am pleased to be working with Congressman Gillmor and my Michigan colleagues on this very important piece of legislation,” said Dingell. “This measure will give the people of Michigan the action that they are demanding on curbing the flow of trash that we neither want nor can handle. I know that Senators Debbie Stabenow and Carl Levin will continue to wage this battle for the people of Michigan in the Senate and I urge

Congress to move the bill with deliberate speed and send it to the president’s desk to give Michigan the relief our great state needs.”

“This has long been a priority of mine and with the collaborative efforts we are that much closer to shutting our border to Canada’s garbage once and for all,” said Upton. “This is about ensuring public safety and securing our borders—we don’t want to take their garbage anymore period.”

Michigan landfills like the Carleton Farms landfill in Sumpter Township, receive more than 800,000 tons of garbage per year.

“Now that this important legislation has been voted out of our subcommittee it is my hope that we no longer have to stand at the border watching garbage truck after garbage truck drive Canada’s trash into Michigan,” said Stupak. “We’ve been waiting for 13 years and every year the EPA says they will implement regulations soon. I don’t know what the EPA’s definition of soon is, but if we continue to wait for the EPA our grandchildren will still be complaining about trash.”

“After fighting for years to end Michigan’s trash nightmare, at last we are moving toward a real solution,” said Rogers. “With this positive step, we are targeting major border security and environmental problems that currently threaten the health and safety of our state and the action.”

The bill will now move to the full energy and commerce committee where the Michigan members are urging for a speedy passage and a vote on the legislation in the full house.

Belleville Museum reopens

The Belleville Area Museum, located at 405 Main St. in downtown Belleville, has now re-opened.

The museum will be open from noon to 4 p.m. on Monday through Friday until Labor Day.

The museum was temporarily closed due to the injury and absence of director Diane Wilson. She is now back, feeling better and operating the museum once again.

For more information, call the museum at 734-697-1944.

Continued from page 14

05-210

6A1. Motion by Prybyla, supported by Romak to schedule a public hearing to consider a request from General Motors Corporation - GM Powertrain, Romulus Engine for an Industrial Facilities Exemption Certificate (12 year Tax Abatement on \$37,518,000.00), to be held July 25, 2005 at 7:00 p.m in the City of Romulus Council Chambers, located at 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan 48174.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-211

6A2. Motion by Burcroff, supported by Miller to schedule a Joint Study Session with Planning Commission to discuss conditional zoning for Monday, July 5, 2005, at 6:00 p.m in the City of Romulus Council Chambers, located at 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan, 48174.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

05-212

7. Motion by Romak, supported by Miller to forward a resolution to U.S. Senator Sander Levin, U.S. Senator Debbie Stabenow, and Congressman John Dingell requesting support in the continuation of funding to the TEFAP Program; including the Food Commodity Program, as well as the Senior Focus Hope Program.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

12. Motion by Romak, supported by Prybyla to adjourn the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council.

Roll Call Vote Showing: Ayes - Burcroff, Crova, Gear, Miller, Prybyla, Romak.
Nays - None.
Motion Carried Unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Linda R. Choate, CMC,
Clerk City of Romulus, Michigan

I, Linda R. Choate, Clerk for the City of Romulus, Michigan do hereby certify the foregoing to be a true copy of the minutes of the regular meeting of the Romulus City Council held June 6, 2005.

Linda R. Choate, Clerk
City of Romulus, Michigan

Publish: June 23, 2005

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CITY OF ROMULUS

NOTICE OF LAST DAY OF REGISTRATION OF THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF THE CITY OF ROMULUS, COUNTY OF WAYNE, MICHIGAN FOR THE WAYNE COUNTY SPECIAL ELECTION - PARKS MILLAGE ELECTION TO BE HELD AUGUST 2, 2005

To the qualified Electors of the City of Romulus, County of Wayne, State of Michigan:

Notice is hereby given that, in conformity with the Michigan Election Law, I, the undersigned City Clerk, will upon any day EXCEPT Sunday, a legal holiday, and the day of any regular or special election, receive for registration the name of any resident not registered, who may APPLY for such registration EXCEPT during the time intervening between the CLOSE of Registration and the Special Election, for the purpose of voting on the following proposal:

Proposition P

“To renew the millage authorized in 2000, shall Wayne County continue to levy this millage at the estimated 2005 rollback rate of .2459 (about 25 cents per \$1,000 of taxable valuation) for five more years (2006 through 2010) to continue to improve and operate several parks and related facilities, including major improvements to Hines Park, Elimbeth Park, Chandler Park and Fort Wayne on the condition that, for any year for which this increased levy would be imposed, Wayne County must budget from other sources an amount equal to its 1995-96 fiscal year appropriation for Parks? This renewal is projected to generate \$11,879,207 in 2006.

YES _____
NO _____”

NOTICE IS FURTHER GIVEN, that registrations will be taken at any Secretary of State branch office or in the ROMULUS CITY CLERK’S OFFICE, 11111 Wayne Road, Romulus, Michigan between the hours of:

Monday thru Friday - 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.

AND THE LAST DAY TO REGISTER

Tuesday, July 5, 2005 - 8:00 a.m to 6:00 p.m.

Every person who has the following qualifications, or who will have those qualifications at the next election shall be entitled to register:

1. A citizen of the United States, not less than 18 years of age.
2. A resident of the state for not less than 30 days.
3. A resident of the City of Romulus.

For the purpose of REVIEWING THE REGISTRATION LIST AND REGISTERING such of the qualified electors who shall properly apply therefor, the name of no person but an ACTUAL RESIDENT of the City of Romulus at the time of registration, and entitled under the Constitution to vote at the next election, if remaining such resident, shall be entered in the registration book.

This notice is given as provided for in Section 168.497 of the Michigan Election Laws as amended.

Linda R. Choate, CMC
City Clerk

Publish: June 23, 2005
June 30, 2005

Isn't it time to do something about violence?

Sitting in the Chicago airport, watching on TV as a smug-looking man was led from court in handcuffs, I wondered what would happen if our society reverted to an eye-for-an-eye mentality. When the judge asked Eric Rudolph if he detonated the bomb at the Atlanta Olympics, he'd answered, "I certainly did."

Rudolph pleaded guilty to detonating three bombs that killed and maimed. His reason? To protest a government that allows abortion.

Let's see. So the answer to disagreeing with abortion is to kill or attempt to murder people?

I wondered what public opinion would be if Rudolph were sentenced to experiencing what his victims went through? Put him near a similar bomb and push the button.

Think this guy is playing with a full deck?

CNN shifts to a report on a woman wounded in the Olympics bombing. She can hold a magnet to her leg and it will stay because

of the amount of metal there. She's had more than a dozen operations and will never, she tells us, have closure because there will always be chunks of metal in her body as a reminder.

Then there's the mother in Okeechobee, Fla who turned her 12-year-old daughter to prostitution and sold her 14-year-old daughter for a car.

Think she's on the right frequency? Think drugs or alcohol is involved?

Or, how about the teenager in Minnesota who went on a rampage and killed nine people then himself.

Pick up a newspaper, turn on the boob tube and violence dominates our lives daily, shootings, beatings, man's inhumanity to man.

Think drug and alcohol abuse

plays a big part in violence?

Walking down Wilshire Boulevard in Los Angeles recently, a filthy, heavily bearded man, maybe 40-years-old, passed, mumbling to himself. Turning, I see his rear-end is fully exposed.

"That's the guy," my daughter says. "That's the guy that stands on the streets, exposes himself and urinates. It's disgusting."

On any given day in Los Angeles there are 80,000 homeless men, women and children. Eighty thousand—the size of a small town. I wonder how many are mentally ill?

In Detroit, and practically all large cities, there are thousands of people homeless.

Why?

This growing epidemic began, in part, when to save money, politicians shut down health care

facilities and put mentally ill people on the street. Drug, alcohol and race add fuel to the flames.

Think a couple of billion dollars taken from the 164 billion dollars spent so far on the U.S. Iraq war would help curve violence? Improve mental health?

More and more, greed replaces compassion, indifference stands instead of understanding.

There is a lot of evil in our throw-away society. In the past 15 years, our political leaders—who swore to serve citizens—have thrown away thousands of human beings.

The need to take action to improve the mental health of America is real. The longer we avoid dealing with that, the more difficult it will be to bring change, perhaps even survive.

Save \$4.50 on Jerry's latest book, "Life is a Joke and God Wrote it!" Regularly \$19.50, but it's \$15 if you clip this portion of the column and send \$15 to P.O. Box 121, Bloomfield Hills, MI 48303. To receive a weekly proactive thought from Jerry send your email address through www.jerrystanec-k.com.

This
is
life

by Jerry Stanec-k

Wrist Pain?

If you suffer from carpal tunnel syndrome related symptoms, then you need to have information before you take a pill, wear a splint, or even consider surgery! Call the Carpal Tunnel Syndrome Hotline toll-free at 1-888-489-8764. 24 hr. recorded message

"Pic of the Week"



Senior Photo Shoot

Creative images done on location in studio, color and B&W.

C.D. Slide Shows Now Available

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192 Liberty St., Plymouth
734-254-9531

www.michaelreynoldsp photography.com

Host an Exchange Student Today!

Make a lifelong friend from abroad.

Enrich your family with another culture. Now you can host a high school exchange student (girl or boy) from France, Germany, Scandinavia, Spain, England, Japan, Brazil, Italy or other countries. Becoming a host to a young international visitor is an experience of a lifetime!



Hanna from Norway, 16 yrs.
Likes skiing, swimming, dancing and art. Hanna hopes to join a drama club while in the USA.



Klaus from Germany, 17 yrs.
Loves camping and playing soccer. Klaus' dream has been to spend a school year in the USA.

asse USA
INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM
www.asse.com

Emma at 1-800-736-1760 (Toll Free)

Jose Mangune at 734-522-5273

Founded in 1976
ASSE International Student Exchange Program is a public benefit, non-profit organization.

CLASSIFIED

01. Obituaries
02. In Memoriam
03. Cards of Thanks
04. Monuments & Cemetery Plots
05. Personal
06. Legal Notices
07. Attorneys
08. Entertainment
09. Lost & Found
10. Coming Events
30. Help Wanted

31. Help Wanted Sales
32. Help Wanted Drivers
33. Child Care
34. Specialized Services
35. Situations Wanted
40. Business Opportunity
42. Pawn Shops
43. Money to Loan
44. Music/Art Lessons
45. Private Tutoring
46. Private Instruction
47. Riding/Horses/Stables

50. Pets & Supplies
54. Rummage Sales
55. Estate Sales
56. Flea Markets
57. Antiques
58. Garage and Yard Sales
59. Auctions
60. Misc. Sales
61. Misc. Items
62. Building Supplies
63. Business and Office Equipment

64. Lawn & Garden Supplies
65. Tree Service
66. Landscape / Nurseries
67. Garden Plant / Supplies
68. Garden / Produce
70. Masonry / Brickwork
72. Machinery Tools
73. Musical Merchandise
74. Sporting Goods
75. Boats / Accessories
76. Remodeling & Renovations
77. Recreation Vehicles

78. Hunting / Fishing
82. Wanted to Buy
87. Room for Rent
88. Duplexes for Rent
89. Apartments for Rent
90. Condos for Rent
92. Business Places for Rent
93. Banquet Halls
94. Farm Land for Rent
95. Garages for Rent
96. Houses for Rent
97. Cottages for Rent

98. Mobile Homes for Rent
99. Flats for Rent
100. Will Share
101. Wanted to Rent
102. Storage
103. Business Property for Sale
104. Farms & Acreage for Sale
105. Mobile Homes for Sale
106. Houses for Sale
107. Condos for Sale
108. Lake and Resort
109. Income Property

110. Lots for Sale
111. Out of State Property
112. Commercial Lease
113. Real Estate Wanted
114. Auto Accessories
115. Autos for Sale
116. Antique & Classic Cars
117. Trucks & Vans for Sale
118. Freebies
119. Auto Repairs
120. Motorcycles
121. Autos Wanted

30. Help Wanted

Entry-level position for a qualified HVAC technician. Must have basic knowledge of heating and A/C. Must have own hand tools. Call 888-661-6616 for appointment.

Experienced CARPENTERS and CREW LEADERS wanted. Great opportunity with a growing company for the right people. Call 248-446-1750 for an interview.

HVAC technician needed for a Livonia based heating & cooling co. 5-10 years. exp. on commercial equipment and controls. Call for appointment. 888-661-6616

Looking to buy? Need to sell? Place your ad in the Journal classifieds. Call 734-467-1900

32. Help Wanted Drivers

DRIVERS

Local expediting company has immediate positions for dependable, safe drivers with cargo vans and straight trucks. Call 734-941-2020 for more information

WRECKER DRIVER
For a local towing company. Full time position with competitive wages available to qualified individuals that possess prior experience operating a wheel lift/ flatbed wrecker. Individuals that apply must have a good driving record and pass a pre-employment drug test. Must apply in person to: J & T Towing Inc 287 Industrial Park Dr Belleville, MI 48111 734-699-0584

Call 734-467-1900 to place your classified ad.

34. Specialized Services

LEEF LAWN CARE
Mowing, Edging, Rototilling, Spring and Fall Clean-Ups, Gutters and More GREAT RATES. Call 734-728-2419

40. Business Opportunity

ATTENTION: COMPUTER HELP NEEDED
\$25/hour, Training Provided
Independent Income Opportunity
888-870-4017 or www.sm-global.com

50. Pets & Supplies

Norwegian Elkhound 7 years. old. Current on all vaccinations. Free to good home. Call 734-968-5104

54. Rummage Sales

Dexter Boy Scout Troop 477 Rummage Sale Creekside Intermediate School, Baker Rd., Dexter Friday 6/24 9-9. Sat 6/25 9-12. Items added continually.

58. Garage and Yard Sales

Canton Garage Sale 45311 Rudgate E. of Canton, S. of Palmer June 45 & 25 9:00am-5:00pm

Call 734-467-1900 to place your classified ad.

34. Specialized Services

BRATCHER ELECTRIC

COMPLETE CUSTOMER SATISFACTION SINCE 1956

Remodeling • Service • City Repairs

734-722-0037
35728 Van Born • Wayne

Huge 5 Family Yard Sale 34240 Van Born Between Howe & Wayne Roads. June 23, 24 & 25 10:00am-5:00pm Something for Everyone!

Multi-Family Garage Sale 3347 Williams, Wayne June 24, 25 & 26 9:00am-5:00pm

59. Auctions

Andy's Auction Dealer sale every Thursday 1:00pm Public auction every Saturday 6:00pm New & used merchandise 6780 Brooklyn Rd. (M50) Napoleon, MI Call 517-764-0062 for more info.

CITY OF WESTLAND NOTICE OF PUBLIC AUCTION

On APRIL 12, 2005 the Westland Police Department will conduct public auctions of impounded abandoned vehicles. The first auction will begin promptly at 10:00am at Westland Service Towing, 37501 Cherry Hill, Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

1987 Honda Accord 4 Dr Blue 1HGCA5649HA084943

1994 Pontiac Grand Am 4 Dr Red 1G2NW55M2RC786767

1995 Ford Escort 4 Dr White 1FASP14J0SW289125

1995 Olds Achieva 4 Dr Red 1G3NL55M5SM356431

Call 734-467-1900 to place your classified ad.

57. Antiques

Motor City Antiques

13431 Telegraph Rd. Flat Rock, MI 48134 (734) 782-4018
17,000 Sq. Ft. of Antiques & Collectibles
Over 100 Dealers
Come Visit our NEW 950 Sq. Ft. FURNITURE ALLEY
Hours: Tues-Sat 10-6, Sun Noon-6

The second auction will begin promptly at 11:00am at Westland Car Care, 6375 Hix Rd., Westland, MI, County of Wayne, where the following vehicles will be offered for sale to the highest bidder:

- 1990 Olds 98
 4 Dr White
 1G3CW54CXL4336586
- 1988 Mercury Marquis
 4 Dr Gray
 2MEBM75F0JX665453
- 1989 Chevy Celebrity
 4 Dr Burgundy
 1G1AW51W5K6181110
- 1996 Pontiac Grand Am
 4 Dr Green
 1G2NW52M1TC800847
- 1993 Lincoln Town Car
 4 Dr Burgundy
 1LNLM81W4PY745831
- 1990 Ford Mustang
 2 Dr Purple
 1FACP42E3LF112758
- 1988 Ford Ranger
 PU Trk Black
 1FTBR10T8JUD17145
- 1994 Ford Escort
 StWgn Black
 1FARP15J1RW323354
- 1986 Pontiac 6000
 StWgn Tan
 2G2AG35W8G9230937
- 1985 Utility Flat Bed
 Trailer Black
 1UYVS248XFU273039

1995 Ford Mustang
 2 Dr Red
 1FALP42T4SF110093

All vehicles are sold in "as is" condition. Bidding on all vehicles will start at the amount due for towing and storage. Vehicles may be deleted from this list at any time prior to the start of the auction.

30 DAY NOTICE OF AUCTION

Due to unknown ownership, 30 day notice is hereby given that the vehicles listed below will be auctioned after JULY 23, 2005 unless they are claimed by the owners prior to that time:

- Shorelander Trailer
 W/Boat White
 No VIN
- Ford F-100
 PU Trk White
 F10HK061357
- 1968 Chevy Impala
 2 Dr Blue/Rust
 164878D140196
- Honda 350
 Motorcycle Red
 CL3502006516

BOLD PRINT
 ATTRACTS
 MORE
 READERS!
 CALL
 734-467-1900
 to place your ad.

AUTO AUCTION
 Howard's Towing & Collision
 35830 Van Born Rd.
 Wayne, MI 48184
 734-326-1114

June 28, 2005
 1:00 P.M.
 All Vehicles Sold "As Is"
 Cash Only

1987 Nissan
 JN1PB24S9HU022456

1987 Oldsmobile
 2G3AM51R7H9411562

1990 Ford
 1FMEE11N2LHA31677

1991 Plymouth
 4P3CS44RXME126767

1988 Cadillac
 1G6CD5159J4336235

1991 Ford
 1FAPP10J7MW398499

1990 Toyota
 JT2EL31F1L0480354

1989 Ford
 1FTDF15Y9KLA80016

1990 GMC
 1B7GL23X8RS516084

1994 Dodge
 1B7GL23X8RS516084

FORFEITURE VEHICLE:

1994 Dodge
 1B7GL23X8RS516084

Call 734-467-1900
 to place your
 classified ad.

AUTO AUCTION
 J & M TOWING
 8964 Inkster Rd.
 Romulus, MI 48174
 (734) 946-4101

June 29, 2005 @ 11:00am

1987 VOLVO
 YV1FX8843H1124064
 04-10761

1987 MERCURY
 2MEBM74F8HX732702
 4 DOOR 05-3762

1994 OLDMOBILE
 1G3WH55M9RD364337
 4 DOOR 05-3828

1992 DODGE
 1B3XC46R9ND711703
 4 DOOR 05-3909

1991 FORD
 1FAPP10J1MW376370
 2 DOOR 05-3953

1993 PONTIAC
 1G2JC54HXP7559828
 4 DOOR 05-4105

1979 FORD
 F11EHGB5789
 05-4132

1995 PLYMOUTH NEON
 3P3ES67C7ST585135
 4 DOOR 05-4215

1989 MERCURY
 2MEBM74F1KX738350
 4 DOOR 05-4391

1988 FORD RANGER
 1FTBR10AXJUA56843
 PICKUP 05-4461

1992 MERCURY
 2MECM75W4NX627251
 4 DOOR 05-4462

1994 FORD RANGER
 1FTCR15X5RPB15874
 PICKUP 05-4476

1994 FORD ASPIRE
 KNJLT07H1R6100731
 2 DOOR 05-4511

1994 CHEVROLET
 ASTRO VAN
 1GNDM15Z8RB116669
 STA-WAGON 05-4512

1991 LINCOLN
 1LNCM81W2MY624730
 4 DOOR 05-A-405

J&M TOWING
 8964 Inkster Rd.
 Romulus, MI 48174
 (734) 946-4101
 June 29th, 2005
 @ 1:00am

2000 DODGE RAM
 2B7HB11YXYK121944
 VAN 05-3887

AUTO AUCTION
 J & T Crova Towing
 36573 Grant St
 Romulus, MI 48174
 (734) 941-0221

June 29, 2005 @ 9:00 AM

1995 CHEVROLET
 1GBJ7H1J7SJ106078
 KODIAK VAN
 05-3742

1996 JEEP
 1J4FJ68S3TL108688
 4 DOOR 05-3954

1994 DODGE
 1B3ED46T4RF173924
 4 DOOR 05-4181

1995 BUICK
 1G4NV55M6SC438986
 4 DOOR 05-4264

1995 CHEVROLET
 CAPRICE
 1G1BL52P2SR187014
 4 DOOR 05-4265

1985 CHEVROLET
 CAPRICE
 1G1BN69HOFY215063
 4 DOOR 05-4265

1989 CHEVROLET
 1GCDK14K6KE123367
 PICKUP 05-4585

1986 PONTIAC FIREBIRD
 1G2FW87H7GN201995
 2 DOOR 05-4614

1985 PONTIAC FIREBIRD
 1G2FW87H1FL627210
 2 DOOR 05-4614

1987 CHEVROLET
 1GCDG15H3H7183236
 VAN 05-4650

62. Building Materials

BUILDING MATERIALS
 Closeout, Clearance,
 Displays!
 Shingles from
 \$10.00/Square.
 Vinyl Siding from
 \$16.00/Square.
 Doors from \$10.00/Each.
 Windows from
 \$20.00/Each.
 Wimsatt Building
 Materials
 36340 Van Born Rd.
 Wayne, MI 48184
 734-722-3460

Funeral
 DIRECTORY

DAVID C. BROWN
 FUNERAL HOME
 460 E. HURON RIVER DRIVE
 David C. Brown, Manager
 Belleville 734-697-4500

Crane
 36885 GODDARD
 ROMULUS
 734-941-9200
 WILLIAM A. CRANE

Harry J. Will
 Funeral Homes
 34567 Michigan Ave., Wayne, MI 48184
 (734) 721-5600
 Tom Lynch • Manager
 Jim Henley • Director
 Also in Livonia
 & Redford

UHT FUNERAL HOME
 Harold Rediske Jr., Director
 Harold Rediske II, Robert J. Gilbert,
 35400 Glenwood Road
 Westland, MI 48186 • (734) 721-8555
 www.uhtfuneralhome.com

24 HOUR SERVICE • FAX 278-7314
 The Penn Funeral Home
 "The Funeral Home You Can Believe In"
 JAMES H. PENN & SON
 3015 S. Inkster Rd.
 Inkster, MI 48141
 313-278-6300

NO POWER? NO WORRIES!

Welcome to affordable standby generator power!

No more fumbling around in the dark when the power goes out. The new 7,000 Watt Standby Generator System from Briggs and Stratton Power Products offers the convenience and reliability of a premium automatic standby generator package at a fraction of the cost. Designed to protect key household circuits during a power outage, this permanently installed standby generator is an automatic, compact, powerful solution to power failure.

Peace of Mind
 Protects your family and possessions by providing worry-free automatic backup power to your home in the event of a utility power failure. The Remote System Status Indicator also warns you of any troubles with the system from the safety of your home.

Convenience
 Whether you are home or away, the system automatically supplies power to key circuits during a power outage, eliminating the need for clumsy extension cords required with portable generators.

Reliable Performance
 The system features a reliable, long lasting Briggs & Stratton engine for maximum power, and a built-in weekly exerciser to keep the generator in top operating condition.

Continuous Low Cost Fuel Supply
 A permanent hook-up to Natural Gas or Liquid Propane provides a safe, continuous, environmentally-friendly fuel source, eliminating the gasoline storage and refueling required with portable generators.



BRATCHER
 ELECTRIC INC.
 WAYNE, MICHIGAN
 734- 722-0037



Briggs & Stratton
 POWER PRODUCTS
 Controls by Eaton's Culler-Hammer

Financing available, simple interest up to 3 years

SAVE • SAVE • SAVE
\$250.00 Off
 Generator System
 With This Coupon
 Offer Expires 6/31/05

66. Landscape/ Nurseries

CRIMBOLI LANDSCAPE INC.

DESIGN, BUILD, SOD,
SHRUBS, TREES, STONE,
PATIO, RELANDSCAPE

CALL OR VISIT FOR A
DESIGN QUOTE

50145 FORD RD.
CANTON, MI
(734) 495-1700

87. Rooms For Rent

AAA Willow Acres
Motel, low daily and
weekly rates.
Refrigerator, microwave,
HBO. Call 734-721-1220,
Tel-96 Inn 313-535-4100.
Fairlane in Novi
248-347-9999

ROOM FOR RENT
Wayne
\$85/weekly
All utilities included.
Call 734-721-0232.

88. Duplexes For Rent

WAYNE
Beautiful 2-bedroom
duplex, w/dining room, full
basement, C/A
\$715/month
\$1,897 move-in
No Pets
734-427-7545

WAYNE
One-bedroom duplex
\$575/month
Utilities inc.
\$1,548 moves you in
No Pets
734-427-7545

WESTLAND-NORWAYNE
Call for list of
available 2 & 3 BEDROOM
duplexes, and single
family homes. Section
8 welcome. Lead safe
units available.
Professional full-time
management.
Norplex Associates
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EHO

89. Apartments For Rent

Extra Nice
2-Bedroom, 1.5 baths
in Westland.
\$600/month plus sec.
deposit.
248-892-0262

GARDEN CITY
28850 Pardo
2 Bedroom near Ford &
Middlebelt.
All appliances including
washer, dryer &
dishwasher.
\$680/month.
Call: 734-634-8069

Wayne & Mich. area,
Apartments. for rent.
Fully furnished and clean.
From \$115 per week Free
heat, electric and water.
35641 Brush St.,
Next To Kroger in
Downtown Wayne
Call 734-890-2033
For further info.

Call 734-467-1900
to place your
classified ad.

WAYNE
Near Wayne Road Very
quiet and clean
1-bedroom. Heat and
water included.
Ideal for singles and
retiree's.
No Pets
\$450/month
w/approved credit
Sec. 8 welcome
313-561-9818
or 313-247-2075

WAYNE
Spacious 1 bedroom apt.
Available mid-July
Perfect for single person
or married couple
Annapolis & Howe area
\$390/month
For info. please call
(810) 229-7356

WAYNE, MI
Quiet 1 Bedroom
Well maintained
Heat/water/A/C inc.
No pets
Great for singles &
retiree's
\$470/month
Call a manager @
734-729-2108
or owner @
734-878-0859

90. Condos & Town- houses For Rent

PLYMOUTH
Hidden Ridge
2 bedroom/2 bath
1200 square. ft.
Garage, neutral decor,
Wooded view
\$970/month
248-374-3927

96. Houses For Rent

BELLEVILLE
Absolutely affordable,
All appliances
\$690

CANTON
3 bedroom Cape Cod,
Garage, all appliances
\$800

RENTAL
PROFESSIONALS
734-513-RENT

BELLEVILLE
Cozy 2 bedroom,
2 bath,
Finished basement, New
kitchen and Appliances
\$550/month.

SELECT 1
313-724-8680

GARDEN CITY
Large 4 bedroom
With hardwood floors,
Carpeting, 2 full baths,
Fenced w/garage
Sec. 8 ok
\$675/month.

SELECT 1
313-724-8680

INKSTER
Near school, garage,
Fenced, Sec. 8 ok
\$575

INKSTER
3 bedroom ranch,
Basement,
Option to Buy
\$600

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large yard
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One month sec. deposit.
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Remodeled, appliances,
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New carpet, paint and
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WESTLAND
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WESTLAND
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106. Houses For Sale

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MUST SELL \$6,000!
For Listings
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3-Bedroom, 1-Bath
"Quiet Neighborhood"
Sweat Equity
\$2,500 Credit
Must have good credit or
use parents as partners
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Call Jack (owner):
800-548-3732
Divorce Forces Sale
\$1,500 moves you in!
As Is Condition
Hurry! Won't last long!

107. Condos & Town- houses For Sale

PLYMOUTH
Hidden Ridge
2 bedroom/2 bath
1200 square. ft.
Garage, neutral decor,
Wooded view
\$154,900
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115. Autos For Sale

1986 Corvette Convertible
Indy Pace Car
60,000 Miles
Original owner!
Must sacrifice!
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1995 Chevy
Monte Carlo
For parts only
Engine and trans.
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6 good tires
\$500
Call 734-467-6885 or
734-434-2902

65' Mustang GT-289
Convertible, 3 speed,
black
Sharp!
\$12,900 or best
Call Mike at:
313-268-8989

8C 2001 Lincoln LS
Excellent Condition
Loaded-Low Mileage
\$18,000
248-344-2174

118. Freebies

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\$35
734-641-4808

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Self-propelled mower
\$35
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121. Autos Wanted

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Morning Worship Service (11:15 a.m.-1:30 p.m.)

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Wednesday Evening Bible Study 7:30P.M.
Pastor Earl Duncan

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